

CLAIMS:

1. A method in a computer network for interactively matching entrepreneurs with investors based on user-provided data, wherein said computer network has at least one client connectable to one or more servers, said method comprising the steps of:

designating a database wherein investor-provided data and entrepreneur-provided data are stored;

analyzing entrepreneur-provided data; and

matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria, thereby enabling entrepreneurs to match with appropriate investors through a web-based site.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria, in response to analyzing said entrepreneur-provide data.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria, in response to analyzing said investor-provided data and said entrepreneur-provided data.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

storing said entrepreneur-provided data within said database.

5. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of:

5 associating said database with said web-based site.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

10 prompting said entrepreneur to input entrepreneur-provided data to said web-based site.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of:

15 prompting said investor to input investor-provided data to said web-based site.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of:

20 configuring said predetermined matching criteria with investor and entrepreneur business criter1a.

9. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of configuring said predetermined matching criteria with at least one of the following matching criteria:

25 stage information;

industry information;

30 deal size information;

geographic information;

legal information;

5 board information;

market size information;

revenue information;

10 funding information;

margin information; and

15 profitability information.

10. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

20 rendering matching information within said web-based site, in response to matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria.

25 11. A system in a computer network for interactively matching entrepreneurs with investors based on user-provided data, wherein said computer network has at least one client connectable to one or more servers, said system comprising:

database wherein investor-provided data and entrepreneur provide data are stored;

30 module for analyzing entrepreneur-provided data; and

module for matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria, thereby enabling entrepreneurs to match with appropriate investors through a web-based site.

5 12. The system of claim 11 further comprising:

module for matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria, in response to analyzing said entrepreneur-provide data.

10

13. The system of claim 11 further comprising:

module for matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria, in response to analyzing said investor-provided data and said entrepreneur-provided data.

15

14. The system of claim 13 further comprising:

module for storing said entrepreneur-provided data within said database.

20

15. The system of claim 14 further comprising:

module for associating said database with said web-based site.

25

16. The system of claim 11 further comprising:

module for prompting said entrepreneur to input entrepreneur-provided data to said web-based site.

30

17. The system of claim 16 further comprising:

module for prompting said investor to input investor-provided data to said web-based site.

18. The system of claim 17 further comprising:

module for configuring said predetermined matching criteria with investor and entrepreneur business criter1a.

19. The system of claim 11 further comprising:

module for configuring said predetermined matching criteria with at least one of the following matching criteria:

stage information;

industry information;

deal size information;

geographic information;

legal information;

board information;

market size information;

revenue information;

funding information;

margin information; and

profitability information.

5       20. The system of claim 11 further comprising:

module for rendering matching information within said web-based site, in response to matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria.

10       21. A program product residing in computer memory in a computer network for interactively matching entrepreneurs with investors based on user-provided data, wherein said computer network has at least one client connectable to one or more servers, said program product comprising:

15       database wherein investor-provided data and entrepreneur provide data are stored;

20       analyzing module residing in computer memory for analyzing entrepreneur-provided data; and

25       matching module residing in computer memory for matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria, thereby enabling entrepreneurs to match with appropriate investors through a web-based site.

22. The program product of claim 21 further comprising:

30       matching module residing in computer memory for matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of

predetermined matching criteria, in response to analyzing said entrepreneur-provide data.

23. The program product of claim 21 further comprising:

matching module residing in computer memory for matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria, in response to analyzing said investor-provided data and said entrepreneur-provided data.

24. The program product of claim 23 further comprising:

storage module residing in computer memory for storing said entrepreneur-provided data.

25. The program product of claim 24 further comprising:

associating module residing in computer memory for associating said database with said web-based site.

26. The program product of claim 21 further comprising:

prompting module residing in computer memory for prompting said entrepreneur to input entrepreneur-provided data to said web-based site.

27. The program product of claim 26 further comprising:

prompting module residing in computer memory for prompting said investor to input investor-provided data to said web-based site.

28. The program product of claim 27 further comprising:

configuring module residing in computer memory for configuring said predetermined matching criteria with investor and entrepreneur business criteria.

5

29. The program product of claim 21 further comprising:

configuring module residing in computer memory for configuring said predetermined matching criteria with at least one of the following matching criteria:

10

stage information;

industry information;

15

deal size information;

geographic information;

20

legal information;

board information;

market size information;

25

revenue information;

funding information;

30

margin information; and



profitability information.

30. The program product of claim 21 further comprising:

5           rendering module residing in computer memory for rendering matching information within said web-based site, in response to matching entrepreneur-provided data with investor-provided data based on a set of predetermined matching criteria.

10           31. The program product of claim 21 wherein each of said modules further comprise signal-bearing media.

15           32. The program product of claim 31 wherein said signal-bearing media comprises transmission media.

            33. The program product of claim 31 wherein said signal-bearing media comprises recordable media.

20           34. The program product of claim 31 further comprising a control program within a main memory of a computer linked to a computer network through a communications adapter.